



Australian Government  
Department of Defence  
Capability Acquisition and  
Sustainment Group



# Schedule Compliance Risk Assessment Methodology

## **Presented by:**

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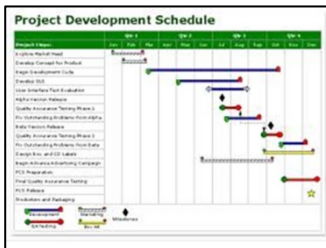
SCRAM Has Been Developed



To benefit decision makers,  
program managers and the  
acquisition community...



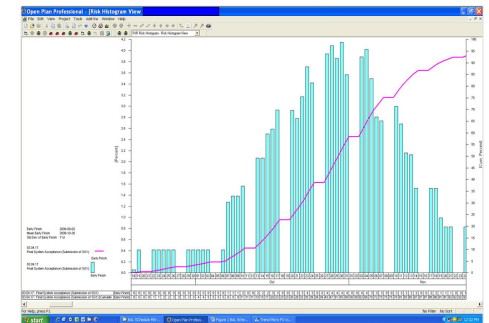
by providing a methodology that assists senior leadership...



to understand risks and/or root causes of schedule slippage and undertake corrective action.

# What is SCRAM?

- An independent assessment method used to:
  - identify issues and risks to schedule compliance
  - quantify the schedule impact of issues and risks
  - forecast major milestones using scientific analysis techniques
    - Schedule Monte Carlo Simulation
    - Software Parametric Modelling
- Engineering based - embodies best practices from:
  - systems and software engineering
  - schedule development and project execution
- Provides feedback on systemic issues to facilitate CASG organisational improvements



# What SCRAM is NOT

- An Audit
  - It does not focus on identifying non-conformance
- A Process Assessment
  - like Capability Maturity Model Integration (CMMI)
  - but SCRAM does identify and treat poor process performance as an issue if process is driving schedule slippage



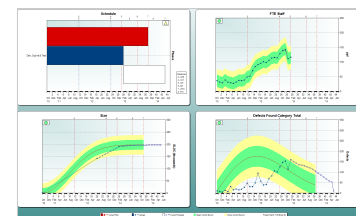
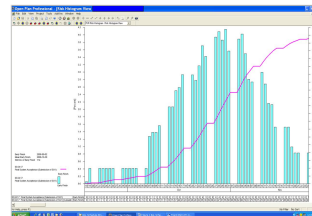
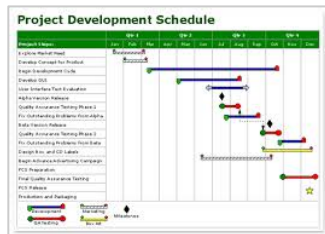
# SCRAM Intellectual Property

- CASG intends to apply for trademark registration of the SCRAM method
- Needed to protect the integrity and quality of the method



# Typical SCRAM Outputs

- Out Brief Presentation and SCRAM Review Report containing:
  - Observations and findings (issues, risks and impacts)
  - Monte Carlo Analysis Results
  - Parametric modeling forecast results
    - For software-intensive systems
  - Recommendations to mitigate risks and remediate issues

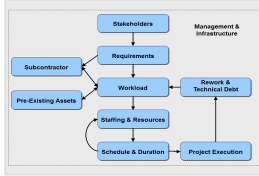

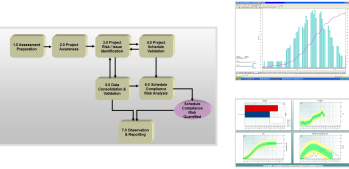




# Diversity of SCRAM Reviews

- SCRAM has been proven in a number of technology domains with projects of varying scale and complexity. Domains include:

Aerospace	Maritime
Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP)	Training Systems
Communications (SATCOM, HF, tactical)	Command and Control
Electronic Warfare	
- SCRAM delivery modes:
  - Pre-emptive (prior to contract award and/or EVM-IBR)
  - Assurance (at any point in the project lifecycle)
  - Diagnostic (when a project is of interest or concern)
  - Retrospective (success factors when a project nears completion)
- The CASG SCRAM Team has completed reviews on 25+ CASG major acquisition projects, 10 in the past year

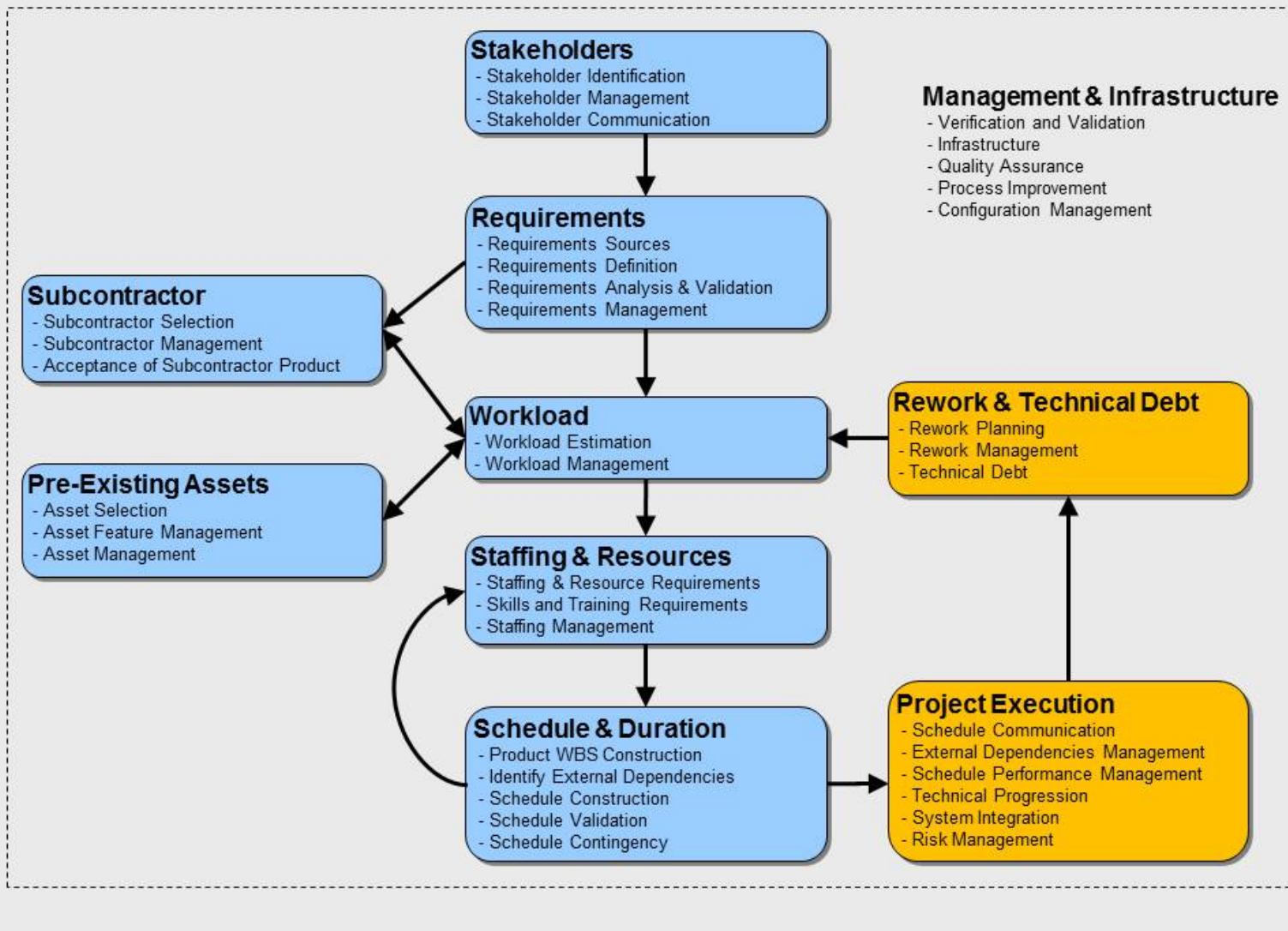
# SCRAM Product Suite

<h2>Root Cause Analysis of Schedule Slippage (RCASS) Model</h2>	
<h2>SCRAM Process Reference/Assessment Model (PR/AM)</h2>	
<h2>Assessment Process and Techniques</h2> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Schedule Monte Carlo Simulation</li> <li>• Software Parametric Modelling (Forecasting)</li> </ul>	
<h2>SCRAM PRAM Model and Assessor Training Courses</h2>	
<h2>SCRAM Assessor Guidebook</h2>	

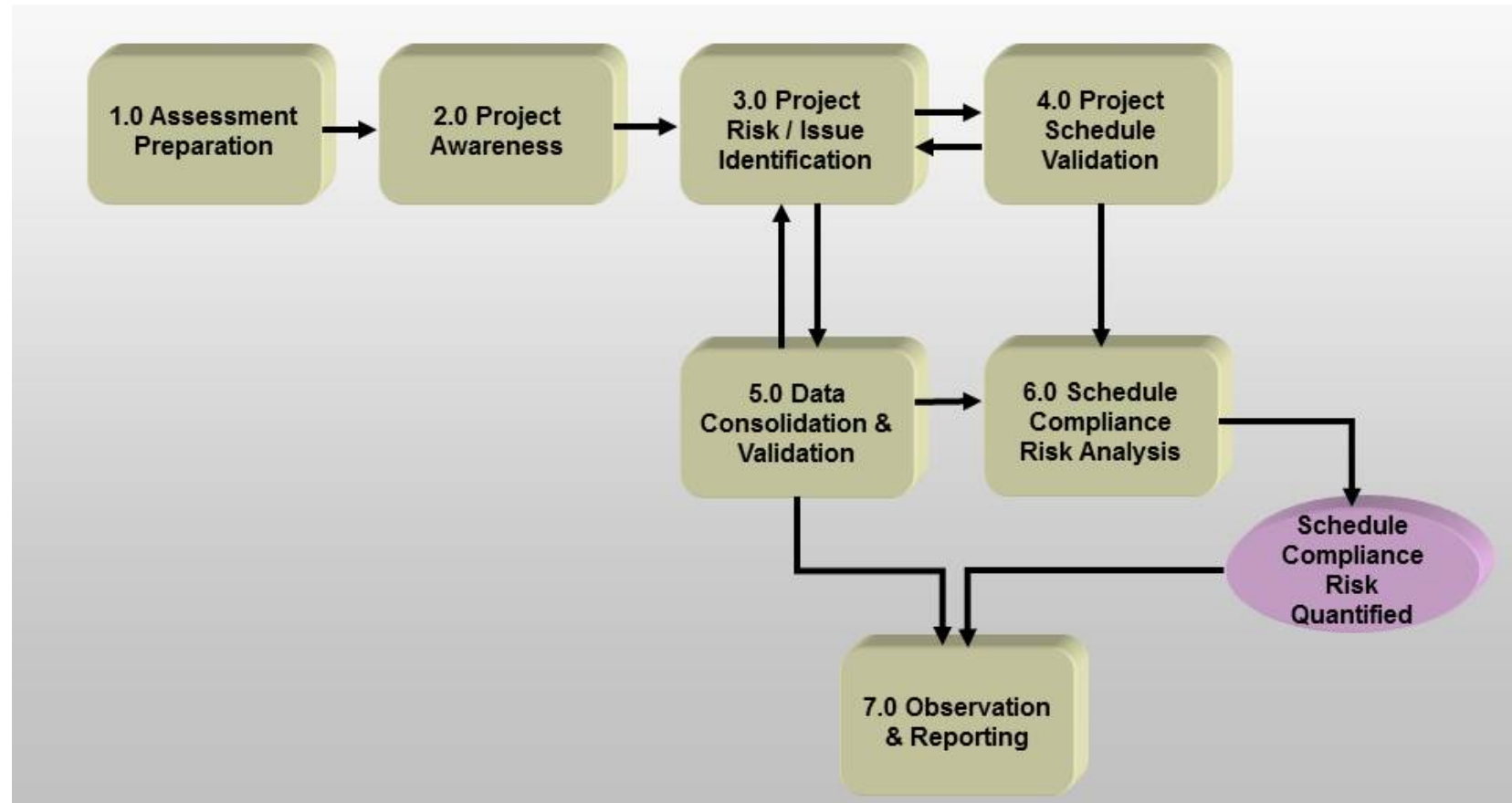


# Root Cause Analysis of Schedule Slippage (RCASS) Model

## SCRAM PR/AM Architecture



# The SCRAM High Level Review Process



# SCRAM Review Key Principles



- Minimal Disruption
  - Artefact Review (plans, procedures, model evidence) conducted offline
  - Information is collected one person at a time
  - Interviews typically last an hour
- Independent
  - Evaluation team members are organisationally independent of the program under review
    - Some SCRAM reviews have been joint contractor/customer team – facilitates joint commitment to resolve review outcomes
- Non-advocate
  - All significant issues and concerns are considered and reported regardless of origin or source (Customer and/or Contractor).

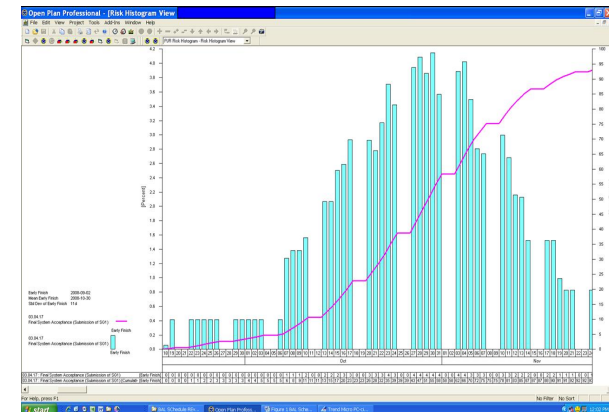
# SCRAM Review Key Principles



- Non-attribution
  - Information obtained is not attributed to any individual
  - Focus is on identifying and mitigating the issues/risk
- Corroboration of Evidence
  - Significant Findings and Observations based on at least two independent sources of corroboration
- Rapid turn-around
  - One to two weeks spent on-site
  - Executive out-briefing presented at end of second week
  - Written report two weeks later
- Sharing, Openness and Transparency
  - For reviewees

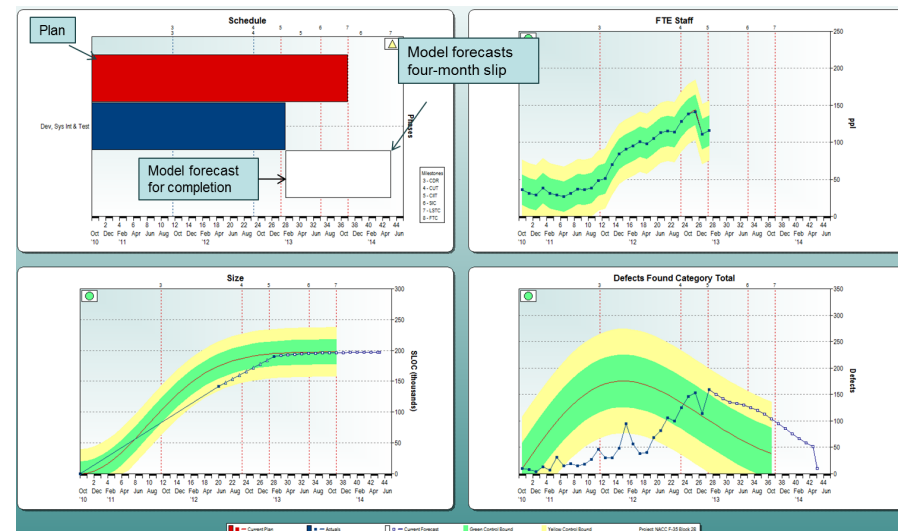
# Schedule Risk Assessment (Monte Carlo)

- Assign three point estimates (Most Likely, Optimistic and Pessimistic) to tasks that are on the Critical or Near Critical Path
  - Estimates are based on identified risks, issues, rework, technical debt and any other sources of delays
- Perform Monte Carlo Simulation
  - provides a picture of the potential impact of risk and level of confidence on schedule milestones
- Projects should use the results of the schedule risk assessment to quantify the potential impact of risk and to validate the effectiveness of risk mitigation



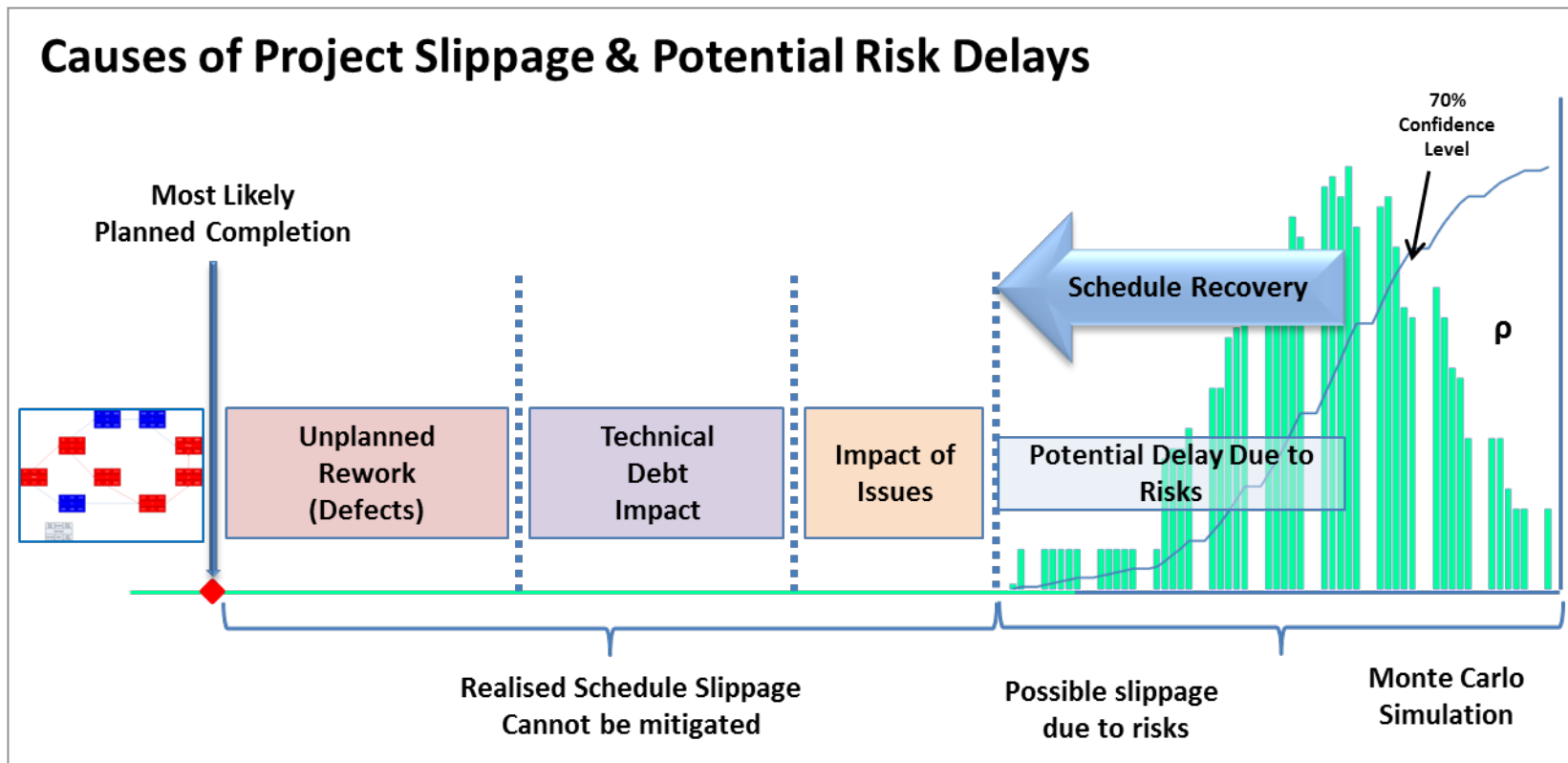
# Parametric Model Forecast

- SCRAM uses a parametric model that uses objective performance to date to forecast software completion
- Inputs include planned vs actual:
  - Software size
  - Defects
  - Milestones achieved
  - Staffing





# SCRAM Identifies and Quantifies



# SCRAM Outcomes

- SCRAM
  - is well accepted by contractors
    - quick, transparent, contractor representation on teams
  - identifies significant issues and risks (usually not in risk registers)
  - is a catalyst to project remediation
  - focuses improvement actions
- SCRAM was the first independent review to report turn-around of the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter (JSF) mission systems software development
- SCRAM led to a major re-plan of the F-35 logistics support system (ALIS) to meet US Marine IOC

***“We engage SCRAM because, being embedded in the project, we can get a feel that the project is heading in the wrong direction but we can’t get a feel for why”***

*- Anzac SPO Generation Director*



# SCRAM Recognition



- Referenced in the ANAO Audit Reports
  - ANAO has expressed interest in using SCRAM reports as an input into ANAO audits
- Used to inform F-35 JSF Program Executive Officer (Lt Gen Bogdan) prior to his appearance before US Defense Acquisition Board (2013 – 2015)
- Led to CASG participation as the only international partner on the US Congressional Software Review Team for the JSF (2014)
- SCRAM best practices incorporated into Australian Software Intensive System Acquisition Management (SiSAM) training
- CASG staff trained in SCRAM ~ 100
- Contractors trained ~45



# Questions & Discussion

Further information:  
[www.scramsite.org](http://www.scramsite.org)